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DUMOURIER UNMASKED:

OR, AN

A C C O U N T

OF THE

LIFE AND ADVENTURES

OF THE

HERO OF YEMAPPE.

BY M. DE VIETTE,

A FRENCH OFFICER.

Mais au moindre revers funeste,
Le Malheur tombe, l'Homme reste,
Et le Héros s'évanouit.

ROUSSEAU, *Ode à la Fortune.*

L O N D O N:

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1793.

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ERRATUM.

Page 45, for galleries, read galleys.



P R E F A C E.

THE attention of all Europe is occupied about Dumourier. Every body enquires the place of his nativity, the means by which he obtained success, and the cause of his disgrace?

His Partisans call him an *unfortunate and incorruptible hero*. Those who have known him intimately, will appreciate him according to his just value: I myself am among the number of the latter.

I do not, however, pretend to sit in judgment upon this man; I leave that to the Courts of Justice, which will some day take cognizance of his transactions; but I am ambitious, in the mean time, to fix the opinion of the public, relative to the Hero of Jemappe.

A

I hold

I hold it as a principle, that no one who denounces another ought to conceal his own name. Anonymous productions, in such cases, are criminal; * and every thing that wears the air of mystery is always in favour of the accused. From that moment, the work becomes a libel; and the author is subjected to suspicion.

In order to avoid reproach, I shall publish my name; but I think it necessary to observe, that I formally disavow every copy of this work which is not signed by my own hand.

Dumourier knows me.

Now, that he is no longer at the head of 200,000 men, and that he enjoys his liberty, he will undoubtedly undertake his *own* justification.

* I myself have lately received an anonymous letter, written by one of M. Dumourier's zealous partizans. As I do not know to whom to return my thanks for the many handsome things it contains, I shall render it public at the end of this work, and then add my answer to it.

He

He really possesses some military talents; but accident and intrigue have contributed principally to his success. I allow also that he is not deficient in point of genius: this circumstance, however, will not prevent me from entertaining the belief, that I shall be able to combat his principles, his conduct, his morals, and his projects, with success.

We are both fugitives; but our situation is very different. Dumourier, overloaded with gold, can no where find a place of refuge: as for myself, I share the lot of my brave companions in arms. It has not been in the power of misfortune to stagger their courage; and their fidelity and their example are sufficient for me: it would be cowardly to complain.



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DUMOURIER UNMASKED.

BEFORE I enter into a detail of the Life and Adventures of Dumourier, it may not be amiss to say something about his birth.—Here follows a short account of it.

The city of Cambray* is rendered famous by having produced two very formidable champions; both of whom have distinguished themselves in the course of the French Revolution. The first is Dumourier: the second, Santerre, the brewer, that ferocious, bloody, and barbarous man, who directed, and even precipitated the murder of the unfortunate Louis XVI.

Since

* Cambray is a handsome, very large and strong town, in the French Netherlands, and has always been considered as the capital of Cambrésis. It is situated on the river Scheldt, which runs through the middle of it, and is twenty-two miles from Arras, fifteen from Douay, and 102 from Paris. Dumourier was born there in 1737; he is now 56 years old.

Since we know that the same place has given them birth, it may not be amiss to ask, in what spot they will be able to procure a grave?

Dumourier is the son of a Commissary of War, a virtuous man, and one generally esteemed. Nobility does not always confer merit. It is not to his illustrious descent that our hero is indebted for his good fortune, and his advancement, but to the generosity of that very Monarch who has lately become his victim; he is therefore more guilty than any other person, inasmuch as he has at one and the same time been devoid of gratitude and fidelity.

Dumourier displayed a certain degree of genius from his earliest years: but genius is not probity. His school-fellows were often under the necessity of chastising him; for, in his youth, as in his more advanced age, he was an hypocrite and a deceiver: in short, as he had not then an army at his heels, he often returned home with a severe drubbing.

On his leaving college, his father, who was about to set off for the army, carried this hopeful son along with him, in order to supply the place of his secretary, whom he had dismissed.

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In the course of the following year, the young man was lucky enough to obtain employment in a regiment of light horse. Being thus rendered master of his own actions, he delivered himself up to all the excesses suggested by a fervid and romantic imagination; and it is therefore but little wonder, that the commencement of his military career was enveloped in clouds and disasters.

His friends have vaunted his bravery; yet in my opinion, he derives but little merit from that circumstance. The tiger fights with unconquerable fury; the vulture pounces upon, and tears in pieces the harmless dove! Courage, when uncoupled with a good heart, produces a monster. I do not mean, however, to say, that this is the portrait of the man whose memoirs I have undertaken to write.

Dumourier has a sister, who shared along with him, in the generosity of the Monarch. The King bestowed the abbey of Fervaque, in the neighbourhood of St. Quintin, upon her; and she has abandoned all her worldly property, in order to remain faithful to God and her principles.

Young

Young Dumourier, who was born with talents, and eminently gifted with a spirit of intrigue, after remaining for several years in the cavalry*, was promoted to an employment in the *staff*† of the army. He served in the island of Corsica, during the campaign of 1768, in the station of *Aide Maréchal des Logis*‡.

His genius, always prompt and active, suggested several projects to him; the success of which was uniformly founded upon intrigue and seduction. He assured the General, that he was certain of getting possession of the isle of Roussé§, provided he were but entrusted with the command of an expedition against it; he, at the same time, added, that he kept up a secret correspondence in the place, and that he would be answerable for the success of his operations.

During the attack, the *future hero* took great care to make his soldiers march before their leader; and the first moment that he perceived the

* In the regiment of Escars.

† *Dans l'Etat Major.*

‡ This is something similar to the situation of Quarter-Master in the English Army, with this difference, that it is considered as being more honourable.

§ This is a small island in the immediate neighbourhood of Corsica.

the action becoming rather *hot* and *dangerous*, he prudently collected the remains of his troops, and ordered a retreat, exclaiming at the same time, "that he had been betrayed!" His conduct being severely censured upon this occasion, he deemed it prudent to leave Corsica, and set out for Paris soon after.

Ambition prevented him from remaining long in tranquillity; and he strained every nerve in order to return once more to an active life. A favourable occasion soon presented itself.

The Count de Broglio, who was entrusted by Louis XVI. with a secret, and confidential department, which consisted in watching the conduct of the French Ministers at foreign Courts, sent Dumourier into Poland as a *Spy*, and not, as has been falsely asserted, an *Ambassador*. There, as elsewhere, he acted the mean part of a *listener*, with a considerable degree of success. One day, however, he was unfortunate enough to be *caught in the fact*; and being seized, and tied to a table, he received an hundred strokes from a cane, upon his *posteriors*. It must be allowed, that our hero, on this occasion, did not act altogether in the capacity of a Minister Plenipotentiary!

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Being

Being determined to avenge the disgrace, his time became so much occupied with plans for the gratification of this favourite project, that he entirely forgot the business with which he had been charged.

Soon after this, he entered into the service of the Rebel Confederates, and was entrusted with the command of a detachment, which was cut in pieces by the enemy: he himself would have lost his life, had it not been for the swiftness of his horse, which fell down dead between his legs, overwhelmed with fatigue.

It was in Poland that Dumourier became acquainted with Prince Miazenski, a man disgraced by his crimes, and who by turns was guilty of assassination, forgery, and perjury.

This is the same Miazenski, who at the beginning of the Revolution, murdered the Marquis de Girouard, in order to rob him of the sum of 80,000 *livres*, which he had just received. The fact has been proved. I do not, however, mean to say, that Dumourier had any knowledge of it; for when we consider his *own moral character*, we must readily conclude, that he would have instantly dropped all his connexions

nexions with a man of this stamp! The self same object* attracted and fixed the love of both; and that interest, which at one time divided, at length tied the knot of their union more firmly than ever.

In the course of a very serious transaction, Dumourier acted a double and deceitful part, in consequence of receiving a share of the booty: in short, they were engaged in a number of very curious adventures; - - - - - but the cruel *guillotine* has at length terminated the life, and the crimes of Miazenski.

After carrying arms in Poland, our hero returned to the capital of France, covered with glory. Listening to nothing but the dictates of his own vanity, and his self-love, he presented himself before the Minister, and was instantly sent to the Bastille. There he underwent an examination, in presence of several Members of the Council, who were appointed to decide upon his fate. Certain of the *secret* protection of the King, at whose instigation he had been employed, he embarrassed his judges not a little,

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* Miazenski was in the habit of visiting one of Dumourier's favourite Mistresses.

by his equivocal replies, and laughed heartily at their expence, when they seemed to attach great consequence to so unsuccessful a mission.

On the death of Louis XV. a change took place in the Ministry. M. de Sartine, who had taken Dumourier under his protection, procured his deliverance from the Bastille; and he was sent, on his bare *parole*, as a prisoner of state, to the castle of Caen, in Normandy.

In that city, he formed an acquaintance with a respectable female, whose fortune operated as a *lure* too tempting to be resisted. Dumourier, on this occasion, played himself off as a philosopher, and even as a man of importance: her family were completely deceived, and actually presented him with the hand of the young lady. *

The Minister, soon after this, became softened, and Dumourier regained his liberty; but he remained unemployed for several years.

At length, during the late war, he received an appointment on the *staff* of the army destined
to

* Her family resides at *Pont-au-de-Mer*, in Normandy; her sister was married to M. Pery, Lieutenant Colonel of the regiment of Noailles Dragoons.

to make a descent on the coast of England. During the succeeding year, the Duke de Harcourt, who thought that he possessed some military talents, obtained for him the place of *Lieutenant de Roi*, at Cherbourg.

This post, soon acquired so great an importance, that, at length, it placed the *Commandant* in a situation infinitely beyond his most sanguine expectations. He remained there during the space of eleven years.

When I served along with him, under the orders of the same General, * he was decorated with the Cross of St. Louis, and possessed the rank of † *Maréchal de Camp* of the armies: this situation alone conveyed to him and his posterity the most honourable species of nobility—that of the sword.

As *Lieutenant de Roi* at Cherbourg, he possessed a very lucrative and agreeable command. He had indeed no manner of occasion to complain of the frowns of fortune; for, in addition to his own

* In 1788—9.

† This rank nearly corresponds to that of Major General in England.

own property and that of his wife, he enjoyed an annual income of nearly 25,000 livres, arising out of the various places conferred on him by the King. Indeed, this man was loaded with marks of the King's personal regard during the journey which his Majesty made to the port of Cherbourg in 1786.

Louis XVI. always occupied about the happiness of his subjects, resolved to give the best possible education to his son, and was therefore desirous to develop those good qualities, the germ of which was already implanted in his heart. He accordingly determined to make choice of a virtuous man, on purpose to confide this precious treasure to his care. Occupied with this idea, the Monarch departed from Versailles, and visited the residence of the Duke de Harcourt, in Normandy, whom he found enjoying happiness and tranquillity in the bosom of his family; and to the superintendence of that nobleman he entrusted the education of the Dauphin.

On this occasion, Louis XVI. visited his people, examined the works of Cherbourg with the most lively interest and attention, and received every

every where, the warmest testimonies of that love and respect with which his affability, his virtues, and his liberality had inspired a nation, at that time faithful to their Prince.

Dumourier was among the crowd, and the Duke de Harcourt presented him to the King, who took great notice of, and distinguished him by many marks of personal regard. His Majesty, indeed, soon after his return to Versailles, sent him a magnificent snuff-box, adorned with his own portrait, set round with large oriental pearls.

Dumourier was always fond of precious stones. One day, when he returned home with his head warmed with wine, several officers of the regiment *de la Reine** happened to be in the hall: the conversation turned upon jewels. On this he sent for his wife's diamonds, and after every body had examined and praised them, he replaced them, with his own hand, in the casket, which he afterwards laid on the chimney-piece of the apartment in which they were then sitting. When the visit was finished, all the officers departed;

* A regiment of infantry.

parted ; and next morning, at a very early hour, Dumourier sent to them, to enquire if they knew what had become of the diamonds belonging to his wife ? Their surprise, as may be readily imagined, was extreme ; they, however, instantly repaired, in a body, to the hotel of the *Commandant*, who, not a little embarrassed at their sudden appearance, stuttered out a few words by way of apology ; acknowledged that, perhaps, the trinkets might have been mislaid somewhere ; and concluded by saying, that he would order the proper enquiries to be made concerning them.

The officers were but little satisfied with this answer ; but out of respect to Madame Dumourier, and the rank possessed in the service by her husband, they preserved a profound silence on this subject. It was, however, agreed by the garrison, that they should no longer visit at their house.

It is asserted, that poor Madame Dumourier's diamonds were soon after disposed of !

Discontented with his lot, and always influenced by his favourite passion, during his residence

dence at Cherbourg, betrayed the interests of the King, as well as those of the people.

He was a member of the Committee of Administration, employed in superintending the public works; and he at the same time received *presents* from Bolabert, the contractor, in order to corrupt the Committee, and favour the most fraudulent contract that ever existed!

The secret protection of M. Necker, the intrigues of the Orleans faction, and the more immediate interference of Latouche Le Vassor, then Chancellor to the Duke of Orleans, and Director of the Marine, but now Vice-Admiral of the fleet in the Mediterranean, were particularly serviceable to him upon this occasion.

I served along with Dumourier, before the Revolution; and during the troubles I have examined his conduct still more closely than before. The family of Harcourt was prodigal of its favours to him: he not only was deficient in point of gratitude to it, but he actually attempted to sacrifice his benefactors, as the first victims of his guilty ambition.

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Were

Were I to enter into a detail of all the particulars of the life of this very extraordinary man, my labours would resemble the web of Penelope, and never have a conclusion: it will be absolutely necessary, therefore, that I should confine myself to the leading facts.

In the month of August, 1788, the children of Philip, Duke of Orleans, visited Cherbourg, under the inspection of Madame de *Genlis. The *Commandant*, who was exceedingly polite and attentive to all strangers, appeared, on this occasion, as if he were not desirous to take any notice of them; and seemed less eager than usual to pay his respects.

The General, who happened at that period to be indisposed, gave me instructions to order all the honours due to the *Blood Royal* to be allowed to the young Princes. I myself accompanied them every where; and distributed a sum of money among the soldiers and sailors, in their names. I even ordered a number of trinkets to be made at Paris, during the winter, on purpose to be presented on the part of their Highnesses to certain persons who enjoyed the public esteem.

Doring

* Now Madame de Sillery.

During the residence of Madame de Genlis, at Cherbourg, Dumourier was not deficient in attention to her. Billets, mysterious messages, and nocturnal assemblies, made ample amends for that reserve, which they affected to preserve in their conduct to each other in public.

Although the person of Madame de Genlis inspires the most profound respect, that lady must be allowed to be very seductive and captivating, on account of her wit and her talents : but she ought to have been more discreet, with regard to the intimate connexion that subsisted between M. Necker and the Duke of Orleans.

Dumourier was a precious acquisition to that faction. During the winter of 1789, he devoted himself entirely to its interests. He never left the Palais Royal.* He was continually with the Prince ; and persons worthy of belief, have assured me, that he even lodged at his *hotel*.

It was at this epoch that, in order to be *more at his ease*, he redoubled his ill usage to his unhappy spouse, who was obliged to run away

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from

* At that time, the residence of Philip, Duke of Orleans, and the centre of the Revolutionary Committees, &c,

from him, and actually necessitated to retire to a convent in Paris, with a very trifling annuity.

In month of April following, the Duke of Harcourt Beuvron repaired to Caen, on purpose to be more conveniently situated, as he would be enabled from that place to transmit his orders with more celerity through all parts of the province of Normandy, which was then exceedingly agitated under pretence of a scarcity of corn, notwithstanding the abundance of that necessary article.

One day, after having delivered an order to Dumourier, in the name of the General, to repair to Cherbourg, he told me positively, while ascending the stair-case of the *hôtel d'Harcourt*, that, "if I would confide to his care the different presents which I had caused to be made at Paris in the course of the winter, for certain persons in official situations at Cherbourg, he himself would distribute them with great ceremony, before all the garrison; that he was even certain he should be able to procure pensions for these persons, as he was still more intimately connected with the Duke of Orleans, than I could easily suppose; and that he would even render me services with that prince."

These

These propositions astonished me: my reply, however, was in the negative; and I transmitted the presents to the place of their destination, by means of the stage-coach.

Whenever Dumourier was entrusted with the execution of an order, which did not prove exactly conformable to his own wishes, instead of maintaining peace and tranquillity, as was his duty, he constantly fermented the discontents of the people, and preached up revolt, wherever he passed.

It was at his house, and in his presence, at Cherbourg, as well as in several other cities in the provinces, that nocturnal assemblies were held, in which plots, pillaging, and other incendiary propositions, were meditated.

He was humble and submissive before his Generals; sometimes he even trembled in their presence; but bold and audacious in the midst of his accomplices, *he was always the first to awaken them to deeds of darkness.*

On that day of general alarm, which took place throughout all France, in the month of July, 1789, Dumourier whispered at Cherbourg, and caused it to be published by a person of the
name

name of Rulliers, his secret agent, that a band of 10,000 robbers and thieves was approaching that city, in order to overwhelm its inhabitants with fire and sword. The *faction* had no other object in contemplation but to arm the people, in order to oppose them to the troops who remained faithful to their King. Dumourier well knew that there was no danger whatever to be dreaded, as he read the *report* every day at the General's quarters, which contained a detail of whatever occurred in any part of the provinces; and he must have known also, that a *body* of from 8 to 10,000 ruffians, provided with cannon, could not assemble and cross, in one and the same night, no less than fifty leagues of territory, without any intimation's being received by the military. Notwithstanding all this, he found means to cause this army to spring out of the earth with the same ease as a mushroom!

It was in the course of the commotion that took place a few days afterwards, that he wished to surprise the loyalty of an officer, telling him, that he ought to surrender, into the hands of the people, the keys of the fort *Du Gallet*, and of the powder magazines at Cherbourg, because they belonged to the nation. The officer, faithful to his King, refused to comply. This
tumult

tumult was particularly directed against all those who were employed in the name of the King. The populace, who did not know that Dumourier was the author of the insurrection, proceeded to his house in order to pillage it: an officer of the regiment *de la Reine*, presented himself with a detachment, to defend his property; but the courage and prudence of that gentleman produced less effect, than a single word pronounced by a person of the name of Laruë, at that period one of Dumourier's emissaries, and afterwards his *Aide de Camp*, at whose voice the populace instantly dispersed.

A few days posterior to this, he was considered as the instigator of another commotion, the intent of which was to liberate a man from prison, who had been heard publicly to affirm, that he had sharpened his hatchet on purpose to cut off the head of M. de Garreulot, at that time mayor of Cherbourg, by the King's nomination.

The reader will not be in the least surprised, that, from this moment, Dumourier became a fanatical revolutionist, more especially when he sees how he explained his opinions on the 10th of September, 1789, in a letter written from
Cherbourg

Cherbourg to a respectable veteran, who, always faithful to his King, and to his own honour, from that moment ceased to correspond with this politicalameleon. The original is in my possession, as are also several other *precious* pieces of the same kind.

“ Your son-in-law has recounted to me the particulars of your adventure with de R——. As I have always found you a little more aristocratical than myself, particularly during our last conversation with M. de Montmorin, I was under apprehensions lest you should be compromised on the late turn of affairs; but I am charmed to learn, that you have happily extricated yourself.

“ Remain tranquil at your country seat, until the summer; and then, if I am not much mistaken, you will have occasion to exercise your great military talents against foreign enemies.

“ It seems as if a coalition of Kings, in opposition to our liberty, was about to take place. The Courtiers will be like so many Hussars, *hovering* between the two parties. It will be then, that men such as you and me, who have fought their way by means of their talents
and

and their conduct, will necessarily become the chiefs of the nation, and be entrusted with the defence of its liberty.

“ Our King is on our side, and will not abandon the good cause; therefore, whatever we perform in its defence, will be legal.

“ Do not lose sight of this point, my old friend, for fear you should ever forget it.

“ The Revolution is concluded. The forms, perhaps, are reprehensible, if we view them through the medium of the prejudices entertained only two years since; but, however, at the expence perhaps of our repose, we are now free. Your children will serve with still more pleasure than you; inculcate in them these ideas; make them proud of their liberty; render them capable of sustaining your reputation, under more happy auspices, for we were nothing better than slaves, and now only enjoy by anticipation, a portion of their welfare and their glory.

“ Behold, my friend, the new heart with which we must inspire them. If I perceive my countrymen slumber over principles such as these, *I shall be the first to awaken, and to arouse*

D them.

them. This patriotic enthusiasm, has not extinguished in me any of those agreeable sentiments which constitute my happiness. Friendship has the dearest hold of my heart, and it is under this title that I now embrace you most cordially.

DUMOURIER."

The Author of this letter describes himself so admirably in the above epistle, that it is impossible to mistake the portrait. It would be difficult to guess what was in his heart, when he himself informs us that it was so liable to change. It is easy to perceive, however, that ambition and interest had more influence in respect to his conduct, than the love of his King and his country.

It is not in the least doubtful, that the *Hussars* hovering between the two parties, are Messrs. Lameth, La Fayette, Victor de Broglie, Narbonne, Rochambeau, Chauvelin, Mathieu, de Montmorenci, &c. But I am desirous to know, what place he would give in his order of battle to Brienne, Archbishop of Sens, and to Perigord, Bishop of Autun; for I know them sufficiently to believe, that they would never have made *Hussars* of this description.

Dumourier

Dumourier penned the above letter but nineteen days before the massacre of Versailles, and while he still served under the Duke of Harcourt, before whom he took particular care to conceal his real sentiments; for in his presence he manifested opinions of a tendency directly opposite.

Soon after this, he left Normandy, in order to be employed as a *Maréchal de Camp* under M. le Comte de Verteuil. Not content with having inflamed the minds and imaginations of the Normans, he, at Nantes, reanimated the expiring patriotism of the clubs, which had begun to assume a calmer tone than heretofore.

He then set off for Paris, and was dispatched from that city into Brabant, by the *Propaganda*, in order to stir up the people against the Emperor, their legitimate Sovereign.

His conduct during that embassy, was extraordinary, and even incomprehensible: it casts great light however upon his late projects, and on the motives of his bitter enmity against the House of Austria.

After visiting and inspecting the army of the Rebels, he informed their leaders, that notwithstanding the immense number of their partisans, they were incapable of resisting the Imperial Troops; and he announced to them, that the 20,000 auxiliaries which had been secretly promised by the National Assembly, could not be furnished, because they were not able to prevail upon the *King* to give his consent to such a measure.

He concluded by offering it as his opinion, that they had no other part to act, but to throw themselves into the arms of the Emperor; still taking care, however, to contrive so as to reserve some subject for discussion that might produce a division hereafter, when more favourable circumstances, now nearly at hand, might occur; and then he would not fail to be of great service to them. In the mean time, however, he found means to procure an advance of 8000 *livres*, by way of bearing the expences of his journey.

Soon after his return to Paris, the Orleans faction succeeded in causing a revolt among the people of Lyons. The Count de Chapelle, a general officer of great merit, having resigned the command of that city, Dumourier made use of
of

of all his art and intrigue, in order to replace him: at length he succeeded; and after labouring with the *propaganda*, with his pocket-book well lined with notes, and his purse filled with gold, he set off for Lyons, crying out "Victory!" —But his triumph was of short duration; for a man, whom I then esteemed among the number of my friends, (M. Meunier, since killed by a cannon ball which took away his legs at Cassel*, where he was *Commandant*,) being informed of this nomination, he instantly waited upon M. Duportail, the then Minister at War, and assured him, that every thing was lost if the new *Commandant* ever reached Lyons, as he was one of the most obstinate and dangerous partisans of the Orleans faction.

The Minister immediately expedited a courier after him; and Dumourier, while yet on the road, received orders to return to Paris.

On this, he assumed the mask of innocence and of virtue, in order the better to deceive those who surrounded him, without forgetting, however, the outrage, which he was determined to revenge on the first favourable opportunity.

In

* In the immediate neighbourhood of Mayence, to which it serves as an outwork.

In exact conformity to these sentiments, he acted the part of an *Aristocrate* for several months; and he even presided at a kind of club, in the neighbourhood of the *Place Louis XV.*

He addressed a letter to the King two months after this, of which the following are a few of the most remarkable passages:

“SIRE,

“Your Majesty is the most accomplished man in your whole kingdom; and it is under this title that I address my most respectful complaints to you. You cannot be supposed to know me but by my services, since neither my birth nor my fortune have placed me in a situation to approach your person.

“I have served in the army no less than thirty-five years; I have received, during that period, several wounds; and I have never either demanded or obtained any recompence.

“Notwithstanding all this, I have been calumniated to you, since your Majesty has been pleased to countermand my appointment as *Commandant* at Lyons.

“I pos-

" I possess the most tender and respectful attachment to your Majesty's person, which is redoubled by the present circumstances; and I sigh in silence.

" A fresh occasion now presents itself, by which I have once more an opportunity of being serviceable to you. Nothing is more dangerous for the interests of your Majesty, and those of your kingdom, than the project of the Princes.

* * * * *

" I shall always love you, Sir; my life is at the service of your Majesty, and my vows shall be perpetually offered up for your preservation.

" These are the sentiments of

" Your Majesty's

" *Most humble,*

" *Most faithful, and*

" *Most obedient subject,*

" DUMOURIER."

I shall only permit myself to make one observation relative to this letter. There is not a single word of truth in the whole of it, from the beginning to the end; save and except the first sentence:

sentence : his subsequent conduct has sufficiently demonstrated, that the rest is the production of falsehood and hypocrisy.

All Dumourier's pretended attachment and respect were insufficient to obtain for him the favour which he demanded. Furious at this new refusal, he turned his back upon his audience in the *Place Louis XV.* and disappeared.

Disappointed in Paris, he returned to Brittany and Poitou, and was not employed in any embassy, as several persons have asserted. What has occasioned this error, is the resemblance of his name to that of the Count de Moustier, at that time nominated Minister Plenipotentiary at the Court of Berlin. The similarity of name does not in the least imply a similarity of character !

Louis XVI. the victim of his own generosity, persecuted by wicked and ungrateful men, wished to withdraw his family from the daggers of assassins, who had long menaced their lives. He accordingly fled along with them, in the month of June, 1791. The factious, instead of preventing, facilitated his departure, not, as may be easily supposed, out of any regard for the
King's

King's safety, but in order to rivet his fetters, and augment their own power.

At length, they caused him, along with his illustrious consort and children, to be arrested at Varennes; and brought them back prisoners to the capital.

I myself was a witness to all the scenes of horror which these august victims were forced to undergo; for I had never left them since the 1st of October, 1789. A post, which necessarily attached me to the King's person, enabled me to have a ready access to his Majesty, during the whole period of his captivity, even when deprived of the society of those who were most dear to him.

What did Dumourier do, when he received intelligence of the King's departure?

He trampled under foot that gratitude which he owed to his benefactor. He did not even wait for the orders of the National Assembly, but fabricated an oath, infinitely more execrable than all those which that body had invented; for in it no mention whatever was made of the King's name!

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On

On this occasion, he caused all the officers of the regiment of Poitou, then in garrison at Nantes, to be awakened at two o'clock in the morning; and without allowing them time, even to dress themselves, he caused them to take the oath which he had drawn up, in the midst of a band of armed ruffians: it may be here observed, that the happiness enjoyed by the French people at this moment is equally real with the sincerity of the patriotism of the officers of that regiment!

On the very same day, he wrote to all the *Commandants* of the different detachments under his orders, a most infamous letter, the original of which is now before me. Here follow a few passages of it:

“Honour, that main spring of military actions, under despotism, is not an idea sufficiently elevated by itself to ensure the confidence of a free people. A sentiment infinitely more sublime, that of patriotism, ought at once to ennoble, and to render it pure.

“The gentlemen officers of the regiment of Poitou have had the advantage of preceding you in the sincere expressions of their patriotism, merely because they had the happiness of being
at

at Nantes, at the moment when the late frightful intelligence was received by the Administrative Bodies, whose patriotism and prudence augment in proportion to the danger.

“ Inclosed, you will receive an order to take the same oath as the officers of the regiment of Poitou ; I join that of my own, as your General.

“ Assemble the officers ; read my letter to them. Tell them, that on one side is to be found true honour, patriotism, and virtue ; while on the other, nothing is to be hoped for, but opprobrium, cowardice, and perjury. No French officer can hesitate a single moment as to the choice which he ought to make. In regard to the dragoons, I am certain of the part that they will act,

“ Every French soldier must be apprised of the advantages which he has to expect on the part of the representatives of the nation, who are so paternally occupied about the army. He will feel the value of liberty ; he will feel the satisfaction of being a citizen ; he will live, and he will die, for his brethren, and his fellow-citizens.

“ Tell them, on my part, that I have an entire confidence in their patriotism, their sagacity, and their obedience to the military laws; tell them that I will show myself worthy of commanding them; and that, acting at the head of such patriotic regiments, I will either live free, or find a glorious grave.

“ DUMOURIER.”

I shall here pass over a variety of little circumstances in the private, in order to have a better opportunity to occupy my attention with the public life of our hero.

On the very same day, Dumourier gave full vent to his fury; he threw down, with great indignation, his Cross of St. Louis, in the midst of the Jacobin Club; exclaiming at the same time, that he would not wear the favours of a tyrant and a despot.

A person of the name of Benoiton, President of the department of Nantes, picked it up, and restored it to him in the name of his country, after having disgraced the military ornament
with

with the three-coloured ribbon ; or, in other words, with the livery of the Duke of Orleans.*

Why does Dumourier, at this very day, wear the same cross which he then profaned ? The answer is easy : he would again trample it under his feet, if he could but derive any advantage from the act.

The principles of M. Lizardiere happening to displease him, he caused a report to be spread abroad, that this gentleman had assembled twelve hundred Aristocrats at his castle at Poitou, in order to deliver up that province to an English fleet, then cruising upon its coasts. He then issued orders for the troops of the line, and the national guards belonging to his division, to march instantly, on purpose to prevent the pretended disembarkation, in express opposition to the wishes of the administrative bodies, who well knew there was no more an English fleet on the coast of Poitou, than an assembly of emigrants in the castle of M. de Lizardiere, who was at that moment confined as a close prisoner in the town of *Sables d'Olonne*.

Not

* The patriotic cockade is actually composed of the three colours displayed in the livery of the Orleans family.

Notwithstanding all this, the castle of that unfortunate gentleman was pillaged and burnt, in consequence of the expedition, undertaken under the immediate orders of Dumourier himself, although he did not choose to approach within a league of the place.

It was the company of grenadiers of the regiment of Rohan-Soubise, who set fire to his *château*; this regiment was accompanied by several seditious persons.

Much about the same time, he caused Count de Menou, the *Commandant* of the castle of Nantes, to be illegally arrested, as well as his daughter, a Commissary at War, and more than three hundred priests, who died, overwhelmed with hunger, misery, and distress. He also ordered the unhappy nuns to be driven from the convent of the Carmelites; they betook themselves to flight, at ten o'clock in the evening, threw themselves into boats on the Loire, and were abandoned, during the whole night, to the insults and indignities of his satellites.

Soon after this, Dumourier set off for Rochelle, in hopes of being able to rekindle the expiring embers of patriotism in the clubs of that city;

city; and he embarrassed the *Commandant* not a little, by the obstacles which he threw in his way.

On this occasion, he forcibly exchanged 5000 liv. in assignats, for an equal sum in ready money, belonging to the chest of the district of Machecault, at this moment rendered famous by the exploits of M. Gaston.

A man who deceived the King and the people, by turns, is fully capable of such an action, when he is sure of impunity. Several affairs of this kind, embroiled him with the patriots and with justice, which, at that period, was indeed very indulgent; it was necessary, however, that he should decamp *without beat of drum*.

I must not here forget the use which Dumourier had made of the snuff-box, which the King had sent to him at Cherbourg. In the month of November, 1791, he deposited it upon the *altar of his country*, saying at the same time: "I present this as a patriotic gift, for I will not keep any thing that once belonged to a traitor!" I have been assured that his friends, the *political buffars*, restored the box to him, the moment that the ceremony ended. This much is certain, that a Norman gentleman (M. de Vaillant) announced by
adver-

advetrisement in the news-papers of that day, that he would present any person with 600 livres, who would convey to him the portrait of the King, which Dumourier had treated so unworthily.

In what manner can the public reconcile this with the tenderness and sensibility with which he now professes to behold that very portrait of the King, which he boasts of having received from his Majesty's own hand?

On his return to Paris, as our hero was left without any employment, he became ambitious of being admitted into the Ministry: I had known, long before, that this was his aim.

Already leagued with the Orleans faction, he threw himself also into the arms of the Jacobins. By means of his oaths, his grimaces, and his monkey tricks, he found means to deceive them: he was the first person to array himself with the *red bonnet*, the sign of revolt; the fanatics followed his example, and soon after obliged the King to appoint him Minister of Foreign Affairs.

The

The moment that Dumourier became invested with his new office, he commenced his career by depriving those men of their places, who had been instructed in all the secrets of the cabinets of Europe, during the last forty or fifty years; and this too, at the very period when their knowledge had become more necessary than ever.

It will, perhaps, be imagined, that he made choice of persons conversant in the diplomatic art, on purpose to succeed them; but the contrary is the fact. He selected, on the simple recommendation of a handsome person, the clerk of a shopkeeper, of Thoulouse; and to this youth he thought fit to entrust the superintendence of foreign affairs.

Bonnecarrere, a gambler by profession, a favourite of chance and of fortune, arrived at this high situation through the protection of M^{lle} Renard:* a number of little anecdotes might here be related, relative to that lady; but as she was bred at the opera-house, I leave her story untouched, as it will undoubtedly find a place hereafter in the scandalous chronicle of Paris.

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It

* *Anglicè*, Miss Fox. The lady has the honour of being of the same name as a great English patriot and statesman.

It will not appear at all surprising that Bonnacarrere, on his thus arriving at his new dignity, through a path strewn with flowers, should have played with the affairs of Europe, exactly in the same manner as he did formerly *with a pack of cards!*

Dumourier being now Minister of Foreign Affairs, it was natural enough for him to appoint his ambassadors. On this occasion, he did not forget the *political buffars*; for he made choice of a dancer* as the Minister Plenipotentiary of the *King of the French* to the Court of London. Behold then, the *ci-devant* Marquis de Chauvelin, who had passed his whole life in *walking minuets and cutting capers*, become the representative of the *august* Constitution of 1789!

The frivolity of this youth made Dumourier perceive the necessity of providing for him a Mentor, in the person of Perigord, Bishop of Autun, who undoubtedly must be allowed to belong

* It is not meant to insinuate, that M. Chauvelin was *literally* a dancer by profession, but that he evinced great and uncommon genius in turning out his toes, and putting his body into a thousand antic postures, which, added to the ability of producing a most graceful bow, rendered him quite irresistible with the ladies!

belong to the *heavy cavalry* rather than the infantry, as he is as little qualified to act the part of a * foot-soldier as a legislator.

No sooner had he taken the oath of fidelity to the King, than Dumourier proposed to declare war against the House of Austria. He accordingly summoned the Cabinet of Vienna to give him a categorical answer; or, in other words, a speedy, clear, and positive explanation of its intentions relative to France. Robespierre was of a contrary opinion; but Dumourier prevailed.

In order to augment his credit, the *new Minister of Foreign Affairs* addressed a letter to the National Assembly, stating, that it was his intention to abolish *cyphers* in the correspondence of his office. He observed at the same time, that he was determined to banish the mean arts of *secrecy and mystery*, which had heretofore been so fashionable, as it was not the interest of nations to subject themselves to the intrigues of courts.

F 2

Dumou-

* The Bishop of Autun is *lame*. I am far from wishing to insult nature. I only mean to attack the *crooked principles*, and not the *deformed persons*, of the vain heroes of the first Constitution.

Dumourier, who, like other great wits, was sometimes deficient in point of memory, soon forgot that he had promised to banish all the *crooked operations of politics* from his department; for, in a few days after, he transmitted the following letter to the President of the National Assembly, after taking care to have the King's sign manual annexed to it:

"The present circumstances, Mr. President, require an augmentation of the funds, necessary for the *secret* and extraordinary expences of the foreign department. I propose to the Assembly to encrease this augmentation to the amount of 6,000,000 of livres, to be provided by the public treasury, and left at the disposal of the Minister of Foreign Affairs.

(Signed)

"LOUIS.

(Countersigned)

"DUMOURIER."

A formal decree, granting the six millions, was accordingly passed: I shall hereafter point out the use to which this very *honest Minister* converted that immense sum.

Dumourier warmly supported the motion made and carried in the Jacobin Club, which had for its object to liberate the rebellious soldiers

diers of the Swiss regiment of *Cbâteau vieux* from the galleries, and to permit them to make a triumphant entry into Paris. This very indecent scene accordingly took place; and the procession actually passed under the windows of the Royal palace!

The Cabinet of Vienna, as it may easily be supposed, despised the summons issued by Dumourier, who, in his turn, delighted at finding a favourable occasion for commencing hostilities, which he had long and secretly pined after, persuaded the King to repair to the Assembly on the 20th of April.

At the conclusion of a long discourse, in which the *new Minister* declaimed, with great violence against the league entered into by certain crowned heads, the asylum and protection afforded by the House of Austria to the French fugitives, and also against its intimate connexion and correspondence with Sweden, he formally proposed to declare war, on the part of Louis XVI. against the King of Hungary and Bohemia.

The *sans-culottes* in the galleries received the proposal with transports of applause; and Dumourier was sure on this, as on several other
occa-

occasions, to reap the harvest of the *assignats*, which he had so liberally *sown* on the preceding evening.

The *Propaganda*, at this period, found means to excite an insurrection at Turin. The *Minister of Foreign Affairs* seized this opportunity to demand, from the King of Sardinia, an account of his motives for assembling his troops, in order to appease it. He, at the same time, insisted on the dispersion of a convoy of artillery; required that the French emigrants should be driven from his territories; and declared, that if these terms were not complied with, he would instantly declare war.

Founding his expectations on the distribution of some money which he had transmitted to the Austrian Low Countries, and on the secret intelligence which he there kept up, he gave orders to the French Generals to commence an attack upon them.

The appearance of a handful of Imperialists, drawn out from Tournai, carried terror and affright into the French army, which was partly cut in pieces, and partly dispersed. Theobald Dillon, who commanded these troops, was
looked

looked upon as a traitor, and massacred by the hands of his own soldiers !

This check contributed not a little to diminish the credit of the *new Minister*; both Rochambeau and La Fayette addressed their complaints to the Assembly, against the author of this project. De Grave, Minister at War, thought proper to give in his resignation; and the Administrators of *Aîne* soon after wrote the following letter to the National Assembly.

“ LEGISLATORS,

“ It is time to fix your attention on the present Ministry. Without any right to your confidence, we know not of any claim that it has to our esteem. It is to its projects, it is to its want of forecast, it is to its little attention to the opinions of a General so eminent for his experience as M. de Rochambeau, that we are indebted for the late disasters.”

Dumourier wished, on the same day, to exculpate himself from the reproaches which he so justly merited; but his party was unable to stifle the murmurs occasioned by his conduct. To avert the attention of the public from this melancholy

lancholy subject, Bazire, Merlin, and the *ex capuchin* Chabot, fanatical Jacobins, and the dear friends and partizans of the Minister, whom they were interested to maintain in his office, denounced a *pretended* Austrian Committee, which, according to them, assembled daily at the Thuilleries. On purpose to calm the minds of the people, the King instantly gave orders, that the most scrupulous search should be made in the palace, and notified his commands to the Assembly.

By way of regaining the public favour, Dumourier repaired to the National Assembly, on the 3d of May, and informed the President, that he was the messenger of good news. He then proceeded to inform the Members, that the King of Sardinia had given the most satisfactory answer to all his demands; and that he had received the most flattering assurance of the neutrality of the Court of London, during the present war between France and the House of Austria. After having cunningly insinuated, that he was engaged in several other important negotiations, he proposed to resign.

On this, his friends instantly exclaimed, with one accord, that he merited the confidence of the
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the nation ; and that he ought not, on any account to abandon its interests.

The Assembly diminished the allowance of all the Ministers ; Dumourier alone preserved nearly the whole of his former income and appointments.

He now deemed the present to be the proper moment to bring the Duke of Orleans on the scene. He accordingly advised that Prince to pay a visit to the army, under pretence of satisfying his curiosity. His Highness spent several days in the camp of Famars, and in Valenciennes ; but the scorn and distrust with which he inspired the troops, prevented him from receiving any of the flattering testimonies of esteem, which he so vainly expected.

A cloud now seemed to shroud the good fortune of our hero. He had found means to procure the dismissal of the three Ministers, Servan, Roland, and Claviere. Brissot, their friend, who had quarrelled at this period, from motives of interest, with the *incorruptible hero of Jemmappe*, affirmed, both in his writings and his speeches, that the King had withdrawn his confidence from these respectable patriots, in order

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to

to lavish it upon the most vile, and most intriguing of men; a wretch whom it was impossible for any other to rival in point of baseness, unless it was his own confident, Bonnacarrere !

The only answer given by Dumourier to these approbrious assertions, was by the distribution of the following advertisement throughout Paris.

Advice to the Public, in respect to a certain Class of Intriguers, already suspected, but who in a few days shall be entirely discovered.

“ Truth will soon snatch from them the mask of patriotism, which they make use of in order to cover their plots and intrigues. It is now firmly resolved to expose their names to the public, and to plunge them into the *slough* of scorn with which they are already surrounded ;”
&c. &c.

How great must have been the general astonishment at seeing Dumourier and his friends at *daggers drawing* with each other !

As for my own part, I have some reason to believe, that a dispute about the division of
5,400,000

5,400,000 livres, still remaining out of the sum of 6,000,000 which were allowed the Minister of Foreign Affairs, by way of *secret service money*, alone occasioned the present quarrel! But the two parties, being equally interested in making peace and adjusting their differences on amicable terms, at length began to forget their animosities. Those who were the loudest in their complaints were recompensed for their silence by means of *assignats*; the glass was circulated; a few bumpers were drunk to the health of the nation; and peace once more was included between the belligerent powers.

Dumourier, at length, resigns his situation as Minister of Foreign Affairs, in order to preside over the war department; and Roland, now in disgrace, writes a letter to the King, of which the following is the first paragraph:

“ The Revolution is concluded in the minds of the citizens; it is no longer time to temporise; it will be ended by blood,” &c. &c. After having remonstrated with his Majesty, in this style, he insists on the necessity of assembling 20,000 ruffians around Paris, and also on the King’s immediate compliance with

the decree for the protection of the Priesthood.

The *new Minister at War* supported this horrible demand ; and even informed his Sovereign, that if he delayed his assent to it, he would give in his resignation. The Monarch, who for a long time past had drunk *deep of the cup of bitterness*, took him at his word, and nominated M. Lajarre, Adjutant General of the National Parisian Guards, his successor.

Behold our hero once more deprived of his employments, and thrown upon the wide world !

But it would be improper here to forget, that it was necessary he should be revenged on Rochambeau and La Fayette, who had complained of him on a former occasion. Certain of the favour and protection of the Jacobins, he therefore sets out for the army, having been previously appointed to the post of *Maréchal de Camp* of a division of troops,* determined to drive both of them from the high situations which they at that time occupied.

He

* *Maréchal de Camp divisionnaire.*

He appoints as his *Aides-de-Camp*, two young women of the name of Ferning, of Maulde.

No sooner did he arrive at the place of his destination, than he disobeyed the orders of his Generals. Rochambeau, *Constitutional Maréchal of France*, resigns, and La Fayette betakes himself to flight.

Arthur Dillon, on this occasion, sends him a letter, commanding him to make his troops take an oath to spend the last drop of their blood, in order to maintain the Constitution. The answer of Dumourier may be seen in the following letter:

"I am quite mortified, my dear General, that you should have issued such an imprudent order; and I shall be very careful not to execute it in the camp of Maulde.

"You ought to have waited for further information, or at least staid until the arrival of the Commissioners, and not have transmitted a declaration which is a crime against the sovereignty of the nation.

"I have

"I have not time, at present, to communicate my motives; but I hope that, after reflecting on what I have said, you will be happy at my non-compliance with your orders, and that you will even be careful to destroy in your army, the bad impression which this ill-timed command may have given rise to. I will tell you the whole truth, as a friend, if you possess a degree of patriotism, that cannot be dismayed.*

"DUMOURIER."

On the arrival of the Commissioners, Arthur Dillon, instead of commanding, found himself under the orders of an inferior officer. Luckner, a Marechal of France, of the *new creation*, reunited himself to, but soon encountered the displeasure of Dumourier. That old man, after acting the part of a dotard, was recalled.

Our hero at length beheld himself General and Commander in Chief of the French army, in the plains of Champagne!

I will not fatigue the reader with a tissue of absurdities which every body is acquainted with.

I recite

* *L'insurrection est le plus saint des devoirs.* "Insurrection is the most sacred of all duties." *La Fayette.*

I recite facts. I have seen Dumourier at the head of 100,000 men, with his army, enjoying abundance at Illets, and occupying an advantageous position there.

I served in the advanced guard of the army of the Princes, under the orders of the King of Prussia. The troops of that monarch were fatigued by a long and difficult journey; and in addition to this, they found themselves exhausted by a contagious malady.

Having learned that Custine was on his march towards Mayence, and that Biron had taken the same road, in order to cut off his retreat, the nephew and successor of the great Frederic shifted his camp, on purpose to occupy a more advantageous situation. He arrested the progress of the victorious Custine, to whom the city of Mayence had already opened its gates; and retook the city of Frankfort, of which the French had already made themselves masters.

This is what Dumourier terms a flight, a total rout, a defeat of the tyrants!

If he had loved the King and the Constitution, as he pretends at this day, then was the moment
when

when he ought to have disclosed his affection, as the Assembly, immediately after having pronounced the abolition of royalty, threw his Majesty and his august family into the dungeons of the Temple. The following letter sent by him to the King of Prussia, does not speak greatly in his favour :

“ The French Nation has unalterably fixed its destiny. The National Assembly, by a spontaneous motion which has been equally felt throughout all parts of the empire, has decreed the abolition of royalty. This decree has been received every where with transports of joy; indeed it was expected with the utmost impatience. Every citizen appears actuated by one common energy; and it is now become impossible to reduce the Nation to such a condition, as to utter a wish for the elevation of that throne which has been subverted by the crimes of its possessors.

“ It is necessary therefore that France should be considered as a republic; and other nations must either prepare to fight, or to acknowledge her.*

“ The

* It is difficult to be believed, that a man of abilities like Dumourier should lose sight of this principle so far as to say

“The rebels are those mad nobles, who, after having so long oppressed the people, in the name of the monarch, whose throne they have shaken, achieved the disgrace of Louis XVI. by taking up arms against their own country; by deafening all Europe with their lies and their calumnies, and by assisting with their counsels (equally guilty and ridiculous) the most dangerous enemies of Louis XVI, and of their native country. I myself have heard Louis XVI. groan at the idea of their crimes, and their chimeras.

“I beseech the King of Prussia, and his army, to sit in judgment on these dangerous rebels. Are they despised or esteemed? I do not demand the answer to this question; I know it already. Notwithstanding this, these very men have been tolerated in the Prussian army, and it is they who, with a handful of Austrians equally barbarous as themselves, have formed its advanced guard.

“In respect to these Austrians, the intrigues of the Cabinet of Vienna are perpetually multiplying,

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to the Commissary Dubpisson, at Tournay, “The new Constitution is cursed flat; we must have the old one, bad as it is, with a King at its head; for a King is absolutely necessary. It signifies but little, whether he is called Louis, or Jacob!”

plying, on purpose to deceive the nation in respect to its proper interest, to deceive an unfortunate and misadvised king, and to render him perjured.

“It is to the Court of Vienna, that Louis XVI. is indebted for his fall from the throne. This Court, whose policy is too subtle to evince a frank and courageous mode of action, has described the French as monsters; while itself employs the guilty Emigrants, pays agitators and conspirators, and adopts the basest means in order to perpetuate the most frightful disorder.

“This Court proves more formidable to its allies, than to its enemies.

“Such a total change of all political principles cannot be of long duration. I declare that, on this occasion, it is impossible to consider the King of Prussia in any other light than as the instrument of the perfidy and the vengeance of the Austrians and the Emigrants.*

“The French have abolished royalty, because, ever since the days of the immortal Henry IV. they

* The conqueror of Jemappe has lately changed his language. It must be allowed, that fear produces every extraordinary effects.

they have never ceased to be governed either by weak, or by overbearing, or by base and cowardly Kings, whose conduct has been regulated by insolent or ignorant ministers, by despicable or venal courtiers, who have afflicted the most charming empire in the universe with all possible calamities.

“ Is it possible, that the King of Prussia, in express opposition to all the rules of true policy, eternal justice and humanity, should consent to carry the wishes of the perfidious Court of Vienna into execution, and sacrifice his brave troops and his treasure, to the ambition of that power ?

“ The King of Prussia might act the greatest part at this moment, which was ever played by a King.

“ He alone has been successful ; he has taken two cities ; but he owes this advantage to cowardice and treason.

“ The army which now stops his march, encreases daily ; it is animated with but one soul ; it is purged of traitors and of cowards, who might have made the world believe, that the conquest of France is easy.

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“ In

“ In a short time, instead of acting on the defensive, it will become the assailant in its turn, unless a reasonable negociation should produce a distinction between the King of Prussia and his army, whom we esteem, and the Austrians and the Emigrants, whom we despise.

“ The heart of a humane and just King ought to whisper to him, that instead of protecting Louis XVI. and his family by his arms, the longer he remains the enemy of France, the longer will he aggravate their calamities*.

“ I sincerely hope, that the King, whose virtues I respect, and who has honoured me with marks of his esteem, will be pleased to read with attention this note, which is dictated by humanity, and the love of my country. He will pardon the rapidity of the composition, which contains these truths, as it is the production of an old foldier, who is continually occupied about the completion of military operations, which are to decide the fate of the present war.

“ DUMOURIER,

“ *General and Commander in Chief*

“ *of the Northern Army.*”

It

* This phrase alone serves to demonstrate, that Dumourier was the accomplice of those sufferings endured by his Sovereign.

Is it not a little extraordinary to behold the hero of Jemappe, now driven from one country to another like a vagabond, and unable to find an asylum any where but among those very Austrians whom he had so basely calumniated*!

The Convention being convoked, Dumourier was one of the very first to give a death-wound to the Constitution of 1789. On this occasion, he charged Westermann, his *Aide-de-Camp*, to felicitate the new deputies in his name, and to render them an account of different objects relative to foreign Powers.

On the very same day, Louvet made a motion in the Assembly to decree "that the nation carried on war against despots and tyrants, and not against the people."

Danton, the Minister of Justice, and the intimate friend of Dumourier, proposed to prohibit nations from giving themselves Kings.—
He

* It is necessary to repeat one circumstance alone, in order to inspire every good heart with horror, and that is, the triumphant manner in which he informed the Assembly, that a woman, through pure patriotism, had poisoned 400 Austrian soldiers, by means of deleterious ingredients, which she had infused into a barrel of wine!

He added, "that it was necessary to destroy all the Kings of Europe; that one only was sufficient to endanger their liberty; and that a Committee should be nominated, in order to excite a general insurrection among all nations against their Kings."

The retreat of the King of Prussia being at length certain, Dumourier entrusted the command to Kellerman, and, without waiting for permission, arrived at Paris. The moment it was announced to the Convention, that he was about to make his appearance at the bar, repeated plaudits shook the roof of the hall. When he was introduced, he spoke as follows:

"Liberty, guided by Philosophy, is triumphant.

"Freedom shall enlighten all nations, and sit upon all thrones. This shall be the last war!

"Despots are the sole victims of the efforts of freemen.

"The army serving under my orders, have neither been affrighted by the success, or
the

the barbarity of 80,000 of the satellites of Kings.

“ The Forest of Argone has resembled the Straits of Thermopylæ in respect to us; but, more fortunate than the Spartans, we have been victorious, and in that spot have slaves found their graves!

“ Notwithstanding the efforts of the most ferocious enemies, we have occupied an inexpugnable camp. They wished to attack it; but this attack would have afforded a complete victory to us.

“ The scene of action is a country barren in respect to its soil, and destitute of water. The Germans will never forget it!

“ May the blood shed by them there, one day fertilize that uncultivated waste!

“ Full 80,000 strong, they have fallen a prey to famine and to fatigue!

“ This army, diminished to one half its original number, has been forced to betake itself to flight,” &c. &c.

At

At the conclusion of this discourse, Dumourier, full of his own visionary triumphs, abandoned himself to an excess of joy.

In the mean time, Louis XVI. confined along with his family within the prison of the Temple, sighed in silence.

If this pretended conqueror had really loved his King, and had not sworn his death, was he not now in a situation to speak in his favour?

His vanity being satisfied, he set out from the capital, and arrived at Valenciennes, where he placed himself at the head of an army of 140,000 men, and a formidable train of artillery, on purpose to attack the Austrians, who did not exceed 22,000.

The victory is disputed during three whole days.

The dead bodies of 14,000 of his soldiers cover the plain, and fill the ditches of the enemy's redoubts!

This victory is praised by him to the skies.—
He now assembles his troops, and exclaims,
“ Let

“ Let us pursue these cruel Austrians, and these base Emigrants, who carried fire and sword into our departments !”

Our mock hero, supposing that the multitude permit themselves to be seduced by miracles, as easily as by oaths, was determined to convert his *Valet-de-Chambre*, the *ci-devant* lacquey of a very amiable and beautiful young lady of my acquaintance, into a General.

Baptiste, at this day, a military man of extraordinary talents, was dismissed, for certain good and sufficient reasons, from the house of my most intimate friend. Soon after this, he entered into the service of Dumourier, and I saw him the very next day, with the port-folio containing the Minister's dispatches.

At the battle of Jemappe, four thousand Frenchmen having run away, Baptiste makes his appearance, with the *nightcap* of the incorruptible hero in his pocket ; and the soldiers, at the sound of his voice, resume their courage, return with fresh ardour to the combat, and the battle is thus gained !

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I am ignorant at what school Baptiste could have imbibed his military knowledge; for I imagined, that all his talents had been confined to the *anti-chamber*, and that he had been but little fitted either by nature or education to fix victory, and to decide the fate of empires! This, most assuredly, borders upon the marvellous; but, at the present day, we ought not to be astonished at any thing.

I must confess, however, that at any other period, I should have no more expected to have seen Dumourier, formerly a Spy in Poland, become General and Commander in Chief of the French armies, than to behold Baptiste, once a Scullion*, acting as his Aide-de-Camp, with

* The history of Baptiste is pleasant enough, and at this moment may be interesting.

He was born in a village two leagues distant from *Pont-aud-Mer*.

Madame Dumourier took him into her service at eleven years of age, as an Assistant to her Cook; he arrived in a short time after to the rank of Groom.

M. Dumourier, who found him a clever lad, first made him his Lacquey, in 1787, and afterwards *Maître d'Hôtel*.

Great men often experience disgrace; and the famous Baptiste was not exempted from this calamity. Madame Dumourier happened one day to discover, that the probity
of

with the two Mademoiselles de Ferning! than to see Bonnacarrere, the Gambler, become Director of Foreign Affairs; the *dancing Chauvelin*, Ambassador at the Court of St. James's; the intriguing De Maulde, Minister Plenipotentiary at the Hague; and Louis XVI. the most virtuous of mortals, perish upon a public scaffold, by the hands of an Executioner.

It is difficult to conceive, to what an astonishing degree Dumourier was blinded by his
 I 2 vanity.

of the new Steward was not altogether so strict as she could have wished; for he was accustomed to charge every article in his bills, double what it originally cost him. Trifling things lead to great events; and a *surcharge* on a pair of *flambeaus*, actually produced the dismissal of Baptiste, who was sent away without a character.

He remained several days at Cherbourg, hoping to be able to soften his master; but Dumourier proved inexorable, and gave him notice, that if he did not leave that place immediately, he would consign him to the care of the *Maréchaussée*.

On this, Baptiste decamped; but, in virtue of the equality and patriotism instilled by the Revolution, the incomparable Dumourier once more took the honest Baptiste into his service, in the month of April, 1792, called him an excellent young man, full of honour and courage, attributed to him the success of his army, and actually terms him, at this moment, his worthy friend.

The reader must allow, that it is but fair to laugh at the blindness of the panegyrist of the *Hero of Jemappe*, and of his very virtuous *Aide de Camp*.

vanity. Even since his flight, while passing through Brussels, he has been heard to say, "The Austrian soldiery are most excellent; did I but command them, I would give the law to all Europe! Clairfayt, indeed, possesses some talents; but he is not a match for me!"

Madman as he is! does he not know, that it is no more possible for him to justify himself, than to diminish the glory with which the Austrian Generals have irradiated their brows? Where is the military man who would not have preferred the skilful retreat conducted by General Clairfayt, after the battle of Jemappe, to many victories, when it is recollected, that with 15,000 men he withstood an innumerable army; and that he waited boldly, on the brink of a rivulet, for such a famous general as Dumourier, at the head of 118,000 men? The soldier who remains firmly attached to his Sovereign, will never lose his courage!

On the 15th of December, the trial of the King commenced.

In the mean time, Dumourier repaired to the theatre at Brussels, and received a crown of laurels from the hands of Dufresnoy, the actress, whom

whom he embraced in a transport of enthusiasm. On that same day, he had caused the tree of liberty to be planted, and danced the *carmagnole*, with his soldiers.

On his arrival at Liege, he received a civic crown from the hand of an English lady.*

From that city, he writes an energetic letter to the Convention—not in favour of the King, or his family, but in order to complain that they had not done justice to the Commissary Malus, and the Abbé Espagnac, both contractors for the army, and his most intimate friends. He even observed, that the absence of Malus alone was more fatal than the loss of a battle!

On the 7th of January, at the very moment when the Convention was furious in the prosecution of Louis XVI. he addressed the following letter to them:

“ CITIZEN PRESIDENT,

“ I demand permission to repair to Paris. I solicit it in the name of our country in danger; in order to point out the proper means for multiplying

* Lady Wallace.

tipling the troops, in proportion to the augmentation of our enemies.

"All Europe is arming against us. We have already cut off some of the hydra heads of despotism: *other heads present themselves; and we shall either cut them off also, or perish*, the worthy children of liberty.

"In consequence of my services, I have acquired the right of telling you the truth.

"I wish to serve the Republic, which has never been in more danger than at the present moment. On this occasion, I make the offer of my labours, my experience, and my life.

"DUMOURIER."

This style does not surely belong to a man who wished to oppose himself to the King's sentence, and who was interested in the safety of that unfortunate Monarch.

On the 18th, Dumourier returned from Paris,

He instantly assembled his troops under arms in the principal square of Brussels, and ordered the decree of the Convention to be read, which
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condemned every soldier to death who should speak against the Republic, or demand the re-establishment of royalty. He himself was the first to cry out, "Long live the Convention!" and to swear the death of tyrants.

After this, he intercepted the letters addressed to the army; and stopped the couriers from Paris, that his troops might not be informed of the horrible crime,* until it had been consummated.

Louis XVI. is condemned to death. On the 21st of January, his august head falls, upon the scaffold.

On receiving this intelligence, the troops of the line testified their affliction, and the national guards their joy. In order to prevent the desertion of the first, it was insinuated to them, that they themselves were guilty of the crime which they had not prevented; and that the enemy hereafter would not give them any quarter.

If Dumourier is not the principal author of the death of Louis XVI. he, in my opinion, has rendered himself highly criminal by his conduct towards him.

On

* The execution of Louis XVI.

On the 29th of January, the *Generalissimo* arrived at Ostend, with the same calmness and tranquillity depicted on his countenance, as at any former period; and he there occupied his mind about an affair of such importance, that the fate of several Cabinets in Europe depended upon the event.

The plan having been agreed upon, he adopted it, as being most suitable to his own interests and those of Philip of Orleans. He even announced, that he had proposed a conference at Antwerp, with Lord Auckland, Ambassador from England, at the Hague, and the Grand Pensionary of Holland.

He, however, concealed this business from the National Assembly, and endeavoured to gain time, in order to establish a correspondence; but the Convention ordered an embargo to be laid on all the English and Dutch vessels in France, on the very day fixed for the conference, which obliged Dumourier to precipitate his measures.

A particular circumstance made me acquainted with his intentions, so early as the 17th of February.

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I carefully examined his letter to the Convention, his addresses to the army, his protestations of patriotism and attachment to the Republic. As I had long known the man, I did not in the least doubt but that the explosion was about to take place.

I happened to pass through Nimeguen, on the 1st of March; at the very moment when all Holland was affrighted at the capture of Breda. I asserted, I even laid a bet, in the presence of the Princess de Montmorenci-Robec, and the Archbishop of Lyons, and a numerous and respectable assembly, that, before the 1st of May, Dumourier would actually be obliged to run away, in order to withdraw himself from the fury of his troops, and the vengeance of the Convention; nay, I added, that previous to this epoch Brabant would be evacuated.

The firmness with which I spoke, at the very moment when appearances seemed to be in direct opposition to my opinions, astonished the spectators.

It so happened, however, on that very day, that M. de Clairfayt beat Dampierre's army at Aldenove; and that, no less than five months

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before the epoch indicated by me, I gained my wager.

On the 16th of February, Dumourier having entered the territories of Holland, addressed a proclamation to the Batavians, which is too curious for me to pass over in silence.

*Proclamation on the part of Dumourier,
Commander in Chief of the Army of the
French Republic, to the Dutch Nation.*

“ BATAVIAN PEOPLE,

“ The Stadtholder, who upon Republican principles ought to be but your Captain General, and who should exercise that office only for your happiness, and the powers with which you have invested him, in subordination to the will and decisions of the Republic, holds you in oppression and slavery.

“ You perfectly understand your rights. You attempted, in 1787, to reconquer them from the ambitious House of Orange.—You had then recourse to the French Nation—but as at that time France groaned under the despotism of a perfidious Court, you became the sport of the intriguing miscreants who then governed it.

“ A hand-

" A handful of Prussians, commanded by that same Duke of Brunswick whom I have since chased from Champagne, sufficed to replace the yoke upon you.

" Some of you have fallen victims to the vengeance of your despot.—

" Some have sought for refuge in France.

" Since then every hope of Liberty was annihilated, until a Revolution, the most astonishing which the history of the universe ever presented, sustained by success the most glorious, has given to you in the French, allies at once powerful, generous, and free, who will second your efforts for liberty, or who will perish with you.

" Batavians! it is not against you that the French Republic has declared war—the friend of all nations, she has for enemies only despots. The English, so proud of their liberty, suffer themselves to be misled by gold, and the falsehoods of a —, of whom they will soon be weary. The more enemies we have, the more shall we propagate our principles.—Persuasion and victory shall sustain the imprescriptible

rights of man ; and nations will be tired of exhausting their blood and their treasures for a small number of individuals, who keep discord alive, as the means of deceiving and enslaving the people.

“ We enter Holland therefore as friends to the Dutch, but as irreconcilable enemies of the House of Orange.

“ Its yoke appears to you too insupportable for your choice to be doubtful.

“ See you not that this demi-despot, who tyrannizes over you, sacrifices to his personal interest the most solid interests of the Republic ?

“ Did he not, in 1782, engage you to break, with dishonourable perfidy, the Treaty of Alliance concluded with us ? Since then, has he not constantly favoured the English Commerce at the expence of yours ? Does he not, at this very moment, surrender to the perpetual rival, the only nation you can dread, the most important establishments, the *Cape of Good Hope*, the *Ile of Ceylon*, nay, the whole of your Commerce with the *Indies* ? Think you that the English, insatiable

insatiable of power and wealth; will ever restore you those places which secure to them the Empire of India? No; you will never regain your rank among the first maritime nations, until you shall have become free.

“ Send back therefore into *Germany* that ambitious House, which for a century has sacrificed you to its ambition. Send back that Sister of FREDERICK WILLIAM, who retains at her command his ferocious Prussians, when you attempt to throw off your chains.

“ The calling in of those Prussians is always an insult to the standard of your brave Troops.

“ The HOUSE of ORANGE fears, and with reason, that the spirit of Liberty will subdue it.

“ A Republican Army will not long be subservient to tyrants.

“ Soon the Troops of *Holland*, soon the conquerors on the *Dogger-Bank*, will join to the French their Armies and their Fleets.

“ The first who unite themselves under the standard of Liberty, shall receive, not only the certainty

certainty of those places which they occupy in the service of the Republic; but promotion, and that at the expence of the slaves of the House of ORANGE.

“ I enter among you, furrounded by the generous martyrs of the Revolution of 1787.

“ They form a Committee, which will increase speedily in number.

“ This Committee will be very useful in the first moments of your Revolution; and all its Members, with no ambition but to be the deliverers of their Country, will re-enter the different Classes of Social Order, whenever your National Convention shall assemble.

“ I enter your territories at the head of 60,000 Frenchmen, free and victorious. Sixty thousand more are in *Brabant*, ready to follow me if I meet with resistance.

“ We are by no means the aggressors. The Orange party has long waged against us a secret and perfidious war. It is at the *Hague* that all the plots have been formed against our Liberty— We shall seek at the *Hague* the authors of our
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woes.—Our wrath and our vengeance are only for them.

“We will pass through your rich Provinces like Friends and Brothers.—You will see the difference of proceeding between Freemen, who offer you their hands, and of Tyrants, who inundate and devastate your country.

“I promise the peaceful husbandmen, whose harvests are sacrificed to the terror of the Tyrants, to indemnify them by the sale of the possessions of those who have ordered the fruitless inundations.

“I promise also to deliver into their hands and to their just vengeance, the persons of those wicked Functionaries, Magistrates, or Military Commanders, who shall have ordered these inundations.

“However, to avoid all the ruin they may occasion, I exhort all the inhabitants of the country, by the sentiments of Liberty they possess, to oppose them; and I will closely follow up my Proclamation, to support the brave, and punish the wicked.

“Batavians!

“Batavians! have confidence in a man, whose name is known to you—who has never been wanting in what he promised, and who is leading Freemen to battle—before whom have fled, and will fly, the Prussian Satellites of your Tyrant.

“The BELGIANS call me their deliverer—I hope speedily to be yours.

“The General in Chief of the Army of the French Republic,

“DUMOURIER.”

On the 25th of February, 1793, the Governor of Breda delivered up that city, in consequence of treason; but Dumourier found in Williamstadt, * a *Commandant* and a garrison, who proved themselves invincible.

Disheartened in consequence of the resistance of this place, he attempted to force a passage by Gorcum; but the Dutch troops, supported by numerous batteries, foiled him there also.

On this he bethought himself of Moerdyck, and made a disposition to cross the Maese, at an arm of the sea called Holland's Diep. He hoped to make himself master of Dodrecht, and then intended

* Lieut. General Boetzlaer.

intended to march to Rotterdam, where he kept up a correspondence.

The sage precautions of Admiral Kinsbergen, added to the flat-bottomed vessels and gun boats stationed there, also shut up this passage, which was still further strengthened by a detachment of 1500 men from the brigade of English guards, that had been newly disembarked.

The defeat of Dampierre at Aix-la-Chapelle, and the raising of the siege of Maestricht, to the great satisfaction of the inhabitants, obliged Dumourier to fall back, in order to oppose himself to the rapid successes of the Austrians. On the 8th of March, the galleries of the Jacobin Club demanded his head.

His army, although superior in point of numbers, was cut in pieces at the battle of Neerwinde.

The city of Brussels abandoned; the loss of his magazines; the evacuation of the country of Liege, of Holland, of Brabant, of Hainault, and of Austrian Flanders; occasioned all his mighty projects to evaporate; *and the incorrup-*

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tible hero of Jemappe was from that moment annihilated!

The French Republic is in danger; the Convention wishes to arrest the *unfortunate hero*; the *guillotine* is prepared for, and forces him to tremble!

It was then that he began to awake from his dream of glory, and resolving to march to Paris, exclaimed: "The Volunteers are cowards! I shall hunt down the Revolutionary Tribunal; and while I can wield a sword, it shall be opposed to excesses of all kinds.

"An odious cabal has calumniated me, by accusing me of having appropriated 6,000,000 of livres to myself, which were destined for secret service; whereas it is evident that I never expended above 600,000 livres of the money; and Marat, the basest, and most rascally of mankind, and the opprobrium of Frenchmen, has been encouraged to calumniate me!"

I never expected to have seen Dumourier fit in judgement upon Marat, who had been so lately his friend!

Immedi-

Immediately after this, he orders the Commissioners sent to seize him, to be arrested; he imprisons, and loads them with accusations; — he would have even executed all their accomplices, if this measure could have but saved himself.

He then sends these hostages to the Prince de Cobourg, and undertakes to march against Paris, in order to re-establish Royalty in France, and dissolve the Convention. He also engages to deliver over the principal places on the frontier to the Combined Army, such as Lisle, Valenciennes, Condé, Maubeuge, Givet, &c. and on his own part, he only insists on two conditions: the first, that there should be a suspension of arms; and the second, to which he attached an infinite value, that he should be sheltered from all prosecution whatever, and have his safety, liberty, and protection assured to him.

The Maréchal de Cobourg, thinking Dumourier in earnest, and imagining that he was treating with a *convert*, acceded to both of these requisitions. This, in all human probability, is the true motive by which we are to account for the liberty which he enjoys at this moment.

It has often happened, that Dumourier has taken contradictory oaths, &c. The Prince de

Cobourg now knows, that whenever a man of honour has given his *bare word*, it is infinitely superior to every thing of this kind, as nothing can make him vary from it!

Our unfortunate hero sent Miazenski, in order to favour his entrance into Valenciennes; but his troops refuse to obey his orders. On this he himself begins to tremble, and is forced to implore the powerful protection of the General of the Combined Army.

He accordingly claims the execution of the *safe-guard* which had been granted him, and says, that he is betrayed and calumniated, that he wishes for a King, and is ready to assist the Emigrants.

The Duke of Orleans is arrested.

Dumourier forgets the gratitude which he owed to his benefactor and intimate friend, lest he should be thought among the number of his accomplices, and thus experience new dangers.

The fugitive arrives at Brussels, sets off for Switzerland, and, in passing through Francfort, publishes the following declaration :

“ Having

“ Having learned that some suspicions have arisen relative to my intentions, in consequence of a pretended connexion which has been supposed to subsist between me and Philip of Orleans, but too well known under the name of *Egalité*, and being jealous to preserve that esteem of which I daily receive the most honourable proofs, I am free to declare,——That I am really ignorant whether there is such a thing as an Orleans faction in existence;——that I never had any connexion with the Prince supposed to be the chief of it;——that I have never esteemed him;——and that, ever since the fatal moment when he trampled on all the ties of blood, and opposed all the laws of humanity, by basely voting for the death of the unfortunate Louis XVI. on whose fate he had before pronounced his opinion, with an atrocious degree of impudence,——my contempt for him has been converted into a legitimate aversion, which leaves me to wish for nothing so much as his being delivered up to the severity of the laws.

“ In respect to his children,——I think them endowed with as many virtues as he has vices. They served their country with great honour, in the armies commanded by me, without ever having displayed any ambition.

“ I have

“ I have a friendship for the eldest, founded upon well-merited esteem; and I think I am sure, that far from aspiring to ascend the throne of France, he would fly to the remotest corner of the universe, rather than be forced to it.

“ And I declare further, that if, in imitation of the crimes of his father, in consequence of the atrocious plans of the Anarchists and factious, he should ever hesitate between the virtues which he has until now displayed, and the baseness of profiting by the frightful catastrophe which has plunged the sensible part of his country, and of Europe, into mourning, and that ambition should blind him so much, as ever to aspire to the crown, I hereby vow an eternal hatred against him, and shall ever evince the same scorn for him that I now profess for his father.

“ The GENERAL DUMOURIER.”

“ P. S. *The original of this declaration is in the possession of Count de Metternich.*”

It would be easy to prove that this declaration was never delivered to the personage here alluded to.

It was indeed posted up with great profusion, during the night, in the city of Brussels. On the

the next morning, however, it was suppressed by the orders of the Government, and the ministers of justice; and it was torn down and disfigured in a manner very mortifying to the author.

Our unhappy hero at length arrives on the frontiers of Switzerland; but the entrance into that country is interdicted to him.

He then publishes an advertisement, stating, that he has just received notice, that the French Emigrants, tempted by the 300,000 livres promised by the Convention to whoever should kill him, were lying in wait on purpose to assassinate him in that country, and that, in order to avoid this danger, he was under the necessity of changing his route.

In short, he set off for, and arriving at Stuttgart, demands an audience of the Prince de Wirtemberg, who instantly commands him to leave his territories.

He then repairs to Margentheim in Franconia, and gives out that he intends to live in solitude, being resolved to occupy his leisure hours in writing the history of the campaign.

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This solitude, however, soon becomes irksome to him; for, on the third day after his arrival, he takes his departure for Brussels, and on his reaching that city, publishes an Address to the French People, and a letter to the Convention, both of which experienced the self-same fate as his former ones.

Address to the French People.

“ The Prince de Cobourg’s Proclamation assured me of his neutrality during my expedition against your tyrants; and, if I should be under the necessity of asking his assistance, he promised me not to act, but in order to restore peace and tranquillity in my country, without permitting himself to make any conquest in, or achieve the dismemberment of any part of France.

“ A second proclamation, which a superior authority obliged that General to publish, has forced me to quit his army, after having stipulated honourable conditions for my brethren in arms.

“ I am now obliged, therefore, to bewail in silence the lot of France, not wishing to employ *my talents* in the dismemberment of it.

“ Being

“ Being incapable of injuring my country, I shall no longer use any thing but my *pen*, in combating the Jacobins and Anarchists.

“ Having received an asylum from a generous people, who *esteem virtue, and deign to watch over my life*, I hope to be able to preserve my *physical existence* long enough to kill them *morally*. This is the best service which I can render to my country, the greater part of which I know to be tired of the metaphysical exaggerations of some, the hideous plots of others, and the atrocious crimes of all.

“ Their last decree, which invites all the Emigrants to murder me, and holds out a recompence of 100,000 crowns, and the assurance of repossessing their property, and resuming their rank in that ferocious society, is no less than a refinement in villainy.

“ They have had the baseness to imagine, that they would find assassins among the Emigrants, without reflecting that men *who have sacrificed their existence to the delicacy of their prejudices, are incapable of ever sullyng their lives by a crime*.

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“ It is with the money of the good people of France, without alluding to that of foreign Courts, that the Disorganisers keep up, and the Anarchists perpetuate their odious tyranny ; and this will continue, as long as the nation will not open its eyes, in order to crush its vile tyrants.

“ The robbers in the Convention accuse me of having caused the military chest to be seized, in order to appropriate to myself the money of the nation, while their own records testify the contrary.

“ In the midst of their innumerable atrocities, we behold an account of the most ridiculous triumphs ; and among others, that of the admission of the *three-coloured flag* into a port belonging to one of the petty kings, or rather chieftains, of Madagascar, who, for an ell of scarlet, or a cask of brandy, would trample it under his feet !

“ The members of the Convention address each other in the language of ruffians, and appear always armed with swords and pistols.

“ Marat now treats his brethren like so many fools and ideots ; and now he detests, he despises, or he proscribes them.

“ Robespierre

“ Roberespierre prepares a conspiracy against his adversaries and me, while Vergniaud arranges a plan against me and the Orleans faction ; to which, by way of refutation, I shall only oppose my declaration, dated at Francfort*.

“ I was so well persuaded that the catastrophe of the unfortunate Louis XVI. would lead to these frightful consequences, that the principal object of my journey to Paris in the month of January, was to save his life.

“ Among the Deputies to whom I disclosed myself, I neither found mercy nor good faith.

“ I even attempted to convert some of the fiercest Jacobins.

“ I represented to them the greatness of the danger, and the inutility of the crime. After several fruitless attempts, which only served to compromise my own safety, I was obliged to fly into the country, to withdraw my resignation; which I had formally given in, and to save myself, with the army.

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“ The

* See page 85.

“ The French nation still possess great virtues. May God forbid that I should confound them with this *horde* of ruffians who disgrace them!

“ The GENERAL DUMOURIER.”

My sole reply to these will be, to desire the Reader once more to peruse the letter which this same man wrote to the Convention on the 7th of January, in order to obtain leave of absence from the army*.

Being invited by his own interest, and the entreaties of his friends, to repair to London, he demanded a passport, which was granted to him, and arrived at Dover, where he produced a second, in which he was designated under the name of Peralta, an Italian merchant.

The City of London being at length possessed of the *incorruptible hero*, he transmits a letter to Lord Grenville, which exhibits a very striking contrast with the note to the King of Prussia, the address to the Batavians, &c.

We shall here transcribe both the letter, and the answer which was given to it.

Copy

* See Page 69.

*Copy of a Letter from Dumourier to Lord
Grenville.*

Saturday, June 15, 1793.

“ My Lord,

“ I have employed Mr. La Costa, a merchant of Brussels, to deliver to your Excellency this letter, with two passports from the Archduke Charles, the one under the name of Charles Peralta, the other under that of Dumourier.

“ In travelling through Germany I found great inconvenience, from not having taken this precaution. M. de Metternich and M. de Mercy advised that I should assume an Italian name.

My intention is not to stay in London, being too well known to find that situation agreeable. I shall take a house at a distance from it, where I can remain, and wait the end of the troubles of my unfortunate country.

“ If the ablest statesmen in Europe, Mr. Pitt and your Lordship, agree to this plan, so necessary for my safety and repose, I shall remain in the greatest privacy.

“ My

“ My Lord Auckland will acquaint your Excellency of what the Chevalier de Maulde communicated to him during our negotiation.

“ Lord Gower, also, will give you an account of my conduct towards England, when I was Minister. But it is not on account of these claims that I now throw myself on the generosity of the English nation.

“ Your Lordship will see, that necessity made me change my name, in coming to seek an asylum in England. I respect your laws; and the fiction was only local.

“ I have hastened to repair it, by this declaration of who I am.

“ If my request is complied with, I shall submit to whatever the prudence of the Minister shall require; and

“ I have the honour to be,

“ My Lord,

“ Your Lordship's

“ Most obedient, and

“ Most humble servant,

(Signed)

“ DUMOURIER.”

*The Right Hon. Lord Grenville,
one of his Majesty's Principal
Secretaries of State, &c.*

Lord

Lord Grenville's Answer to M. Dumourier.

Whitehall, June 16, 1793.

“ I received, Sir, the letter you did me the honour to address me, this morning.

“ It is the Minister for the Home Department that takes his Majesty's orders relative to the residence of strangers in this kingdom; but since it is to me that you have applied, I cannot do otherwise than acknowledge the receipt of your letter, and return an answer to its demand.

“ Your remaining in England will be attended with so many inconveniences, that it is impossible for the Government of this country to permit it.

“ I can only regret, that you did not get information on this subject before you came to England.

“ If your request had been made known to me before you undertook the journey, I should, without reserve, have assured you, that it would prove a fruitless one.

“ It

" It remains for me to say, that I trust you will conform, without delay, to the decision I am under the necessity of communicating to you by this letter.

" I have the honour to be,

" Sir,

" Your very humble,

" And most obedient, &c.

(Signed)

" GRENVILLE."

To M. Dumourier.

Dumourier set out soon after he had received this letter.

He had employed the four days that he spent in London, in business; and the nights, in pleasure.

On the 20th of June, I landed at Dover; and how great was my surprise, soon after, to learn, that I actually had taken up my abode in the self-same house as the *incorruptible hero*!

Mr. Maries, the landlord, informed me, that Dumourier expected speedily to re-enter France; and that he had deferred his embarkation, merely because he was waiting for news from London,

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as the Government, according to appearances, would soon have occasion for his services, and consequently revoke the order for his departure.

He informed me also, that Dumourier would not stir from his apartment, as he was afraid of being insulted and ill-treated by the emigrants.

I begged Mr. Maries, "to assure him, in the name of all the French emigrants, that subjects who remained faithful to their King, could not act as mercenary assassins;—that they despised ingratitude, and had too noble and too elevated souls, to stain their hands with the blood of a conspirator!"

I departed for London, and Dumourier continued his journey.

On disembarking at Ostend, he was in some danger; and he more than once was heard to exclaim: "O terrible Jacobins! O too ungrateful country!"

But a short time since, it would have been necessary to have raised our heads, in order to

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contemplate the *interruption* hero: we are now obliged to lower them, in order to look down upon him!

PORTRAIT OF DUMOURIER.

If the character of this man is extraordinary, his person is not destitute of originality.

Genius seems to animate his features, which, on the whole, are neither regular nor agreeable.

His body is small, and even diminutive.

His eye is lively, and full of fire; his hair was brown; it is now becoming grey.

When he speaks, his head and his arms are agitated; and he often raises his body on the point of his foot.

His gait is precipitate and irregular; he changes his physiognomy at pleasure.

He has a small hand, and wants a finger; but this does not prevent him from *grasping at a large object*.

When

When I was acquainted with him, he breakfasted the moment he awoke, and always dined with a good appetite. It was remarked, however, that he was very *dainty* in the choice of his viands.

After drinking coffee, he generally fell asleep, muttering an epigram or a couplet.

On awaking, he loved to make a party at *tric-trac*.

If he had plenty of money, he went constantly to the comedy. When there, I always beheld him behind the scenes, disputing precedence with the mock *Monarchs* of the theatre, and rumpling the handkerchiefs of the *Godesses*!

I never expected to live to see the day, when he himself would act the first part; but he has at length experienced a fall, which will not easily be forgotten.

It now remains with the public to decide, whether the *incorruptible hero* of *Jemappe* has merited the esteem of his nation, and performed exploits worthy of history. I shall not trouble

the reader with my own reflections: if they are able ones, he has no occasion for them; and if they are bad, they would be unworthy of his perusal.



APPEN-

A P P E N D I X.

*Copy of an Anonymous Letter, inclosed under
a cover to one of the Author's Friends, and
received by him on the 27th of June, 1793.*

June 26, 1793.

“ SIR,

“ I hope that the means I have adopted on
the present occasion, will enable you to receive
my letter, and to comprehend my meaning.

“ I most seriously intreat you to preserve a
profound silence relative to M. Dumourier,
and not pretend to draw any advantage from
that injustice of which he has become the
victim.

“ He is an amiable and unfortunate man,
who is pursued every where by calumny;
jealousy

jealousy is the sole cause of all the misfortunes he has experienced.

“ I understand that you intended, during last winter, to publish a work under the title of “ The Life and Adventures of the famous Dumourier.”

“ You have declined this publication in good time ; for if you had proceeded, you would have found a person ready to answer you.

“ It would become you infinitely better, to occupy yourself about the particulars of your *own* life ; and in that case, do not forget to mention the country you belong to, that, if I should be desirous to inquire into your adventures, I may be furnished with a proper *clue*.

“ If you are unfortunate, you should be silent ; and if you are of a warm temperament, I again recommend silence.

“ In short, I would advise you to keep your opinions to yourself ; for the public will evince no more eagerness to read your works, than I to hear about them.

“ I am,

“ Sir,

“ Your very humble Servant,” &c. &c.

M. de Viette's Answer to the foregoing Letter.

" YOUR letter, Sir, has been received by me, though the mysterious and indirect channel by which you have been pleased to convey it; it would have been fair, however, to have heard me, before you sat in judgment upon my conduct.

" I shall reply to you with frankness.

" You are in an error respecting Dumourier. You may give full credit to the recital I have drawn up of his conduct and adventures; and I beseech you, after you have read my work, to inform me, whether you can still assert, that his manners are mild, and his intentions pure.

" I shall never allow, that he has been the victim of injustice: be assured, that he has no reason to complain on that account; for the number of victims that he himself has made, is infinite, and his own benefactors may be reckoned among the first of them. My efforts therefore, to tarnish his reputation, would be in vain!

" I have

" I have not declined, as you imagine, but actually caused a work to be published, which has for its object, an account of the Life and Adventures of the famous Dumourier, to whose reputation you seem so much attached. This was at first intended merely for the satisfaction of a respectable society, as it was my wish to prove to Lieut. General Robert Clerk, and to the Honourable Mr. Tollemache, that my gratitude knows no bounds, when the object is to give them pleasure.

" Dumourier's disgrace has however made me change my tone; and I have abandoned every idea of pleasantry, in order to treat the subject seriously; for, in my opinion, he is a culprit of the blackest dye.

" If this publication should happen to fall into your hands, be so kind as to communicate to me your reflections upon it, and sign them with your own name, so that I may have the honour of knowing to whom I am so much indebted.

" I should be sorry that the public looked upon you as a libeller and a calumniator.

" Your

"I am a Norman.

“ On reading this pamphlet, you will perceive that I have been acquainted with Dumnourier.

“ It appears to me, Sir, that the counsel which you have been pleased to favour me with, is not altogether dictated by friendship.

“ It seems then, that your breast is incapable of pity, and that you would wish to overwhelm

whelm me with misery, by stifling my complaints!

"I intend to prove to you, that, when the heart dictates, the pen flows with rapidity, and hope you will believe, that if I am eager to reply to you, I am still more so to have the honour of knowing you.

"I am,

"Sir,

"Your very humble Servant; &c. &c.

"DE VIETTE,"

